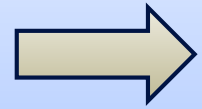


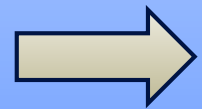
A 3D illustration of a broken map of Pennsylvania. A golden pill bottle is tipped over, spilling several white, round pills with a black score line onto the cracked map. The map is rendered in shades of blue and grey, with a green arrow pointing to the right. The background is a dark blue gradient with geometric shapes.

STATE OF ADDICTION

Presented by:
State Sen. Gene Yaw



**The Center for Rural
Pennsylvania**



13 Statewide Hearings



**75 Hours of Public
Testimony**



Center Reports

**Heroin:
Combating this Growing
Epidemic in Pennsylvania**

REPORT

Compiled from statewide
hearings hosted by ...

The Center for
Rural Pennsylvania
A Legislative Agency of the Pennsylvania General Assembly




September 2014

The Center for
Rural Pennsylvania
A Legislative Agency of the Pennsylvania General Assembly

**Heroin:
Combating this Growing Epidemic in PA**

*Findings Compiled from Statewide Hearings
Examining Addiction Treatment and Recovery Services*

December 2015



“The opioid overdose epidemic is the worst public health crisis in Pennsylvania, and the nation, in almost a generation.”

PA Department of Health

“Drug overdose deaths in the United States skyrocketed 21 percent in 2016 from the previous year, accounting for the deaths of approximately 64,000 people.”

More Americans died from drug overdoses in 2016 than the number of American lives lost in the entirety of the Vietnam War, which totaled 58,200.

Source - CDC



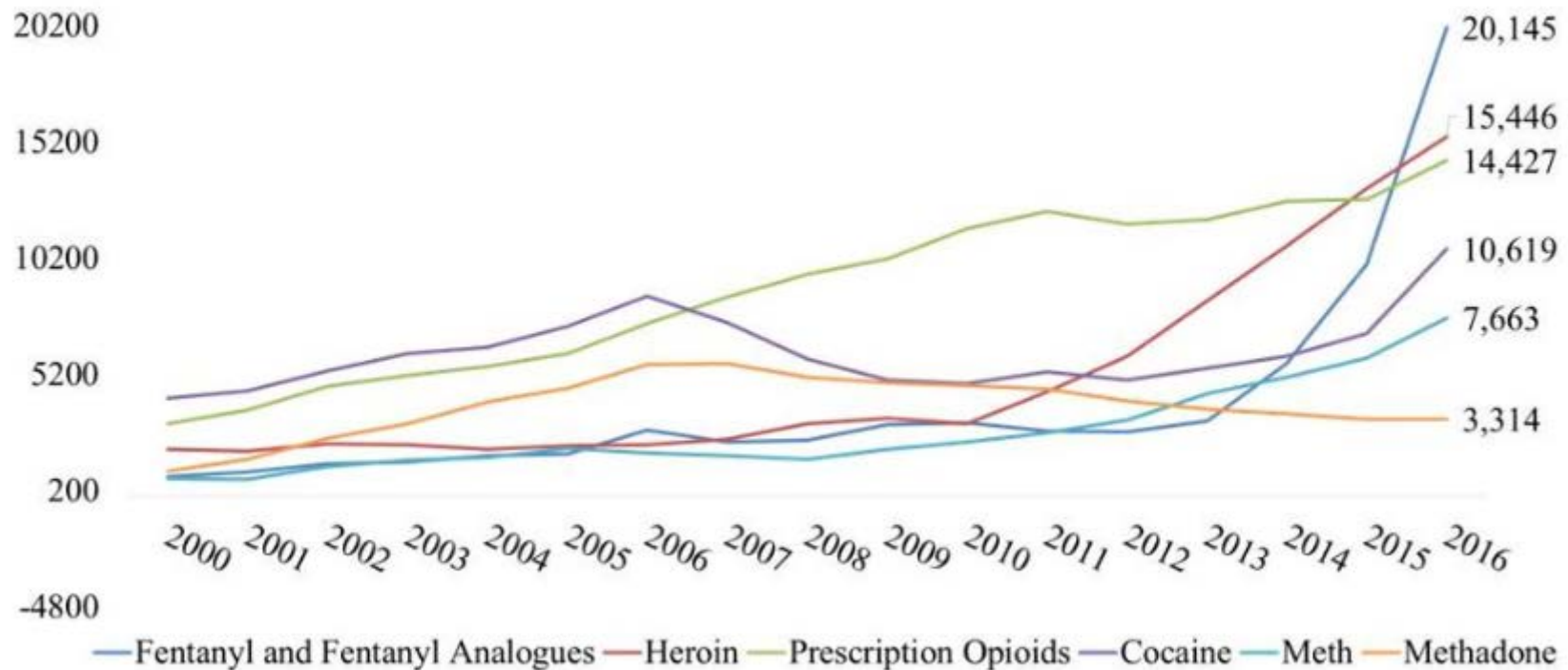
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CDC 24/7: Saving Lives, Protecting People™

In fact, to date, opioid drug abuse has killed more Americans than the Iraq, Afghanistan and Vietnam wars combined.

**65,000 Americans died in Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan.*

Source - icasualties.org

Drugs Involved in U.S. Overdose Deaths, 2000-2016



Source - CDC Wonder Database; CDC Provisional Counts of Drug Overdose Deaths as of 8/6/2017

Statistics

2015 - 3,383 drug-related overdose deaths in Pennsylvania.

2016 - 4,642 drug-related overdose deaths in Pennsylvania.

**At 4,642, the total number of fatal overdoses in Pennsylvania was nearly four times the number of fatal traffic accidents.*

Source - DEA

A photograph of a person lying on a wooden table, possibly unconscious or deceased. A syringe is lying on the table in the foreground. The image is overlaid with a blue geometric pattern on the right side.

“15 Pennsylvanians die each day from an overdose.”

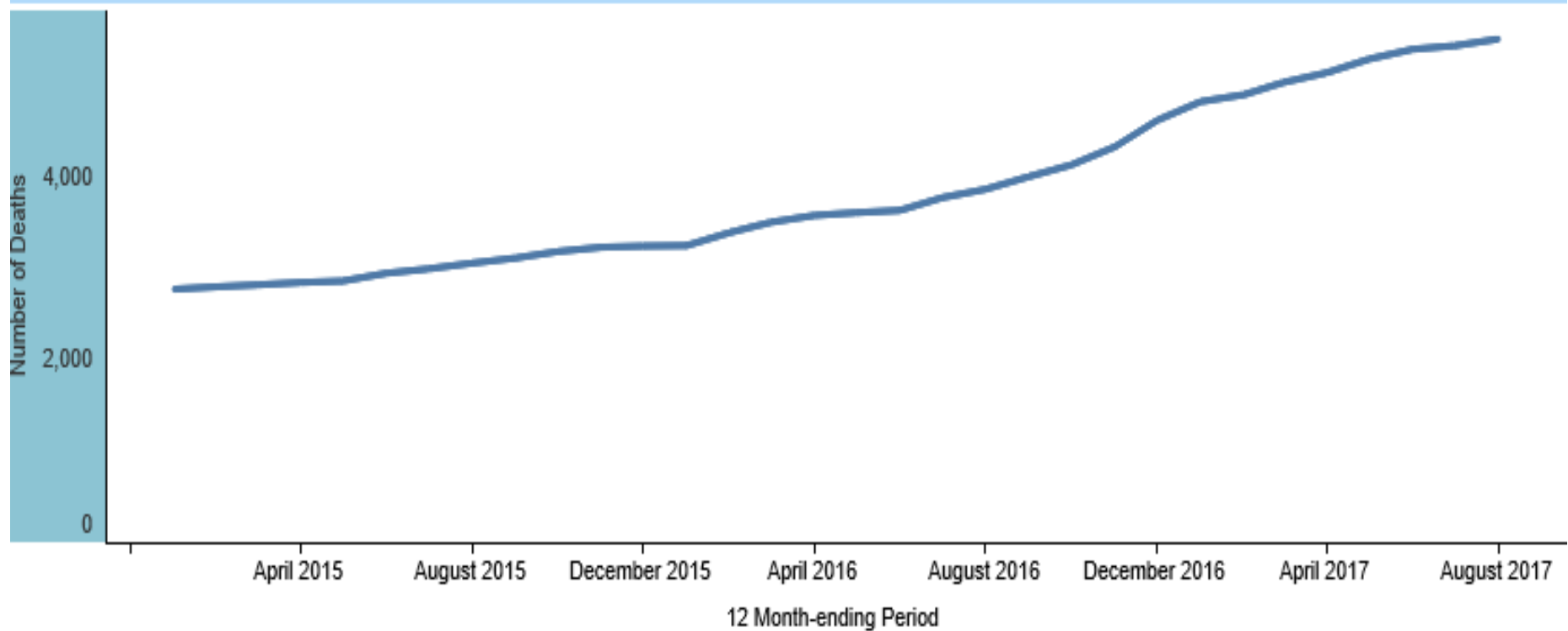
Across Pennsylvania, drug overdose deaths rose by a staggering 42.5 percent from August of 2016 to August 2017, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Statistics

According to provisional data released from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Pennsylvania registered *5,545 overdose deaths during a 12-month period leading up to August 2017.

**Likely under reported due to incomplete data*

Figure 1. 12 Month-ending Provisional Counts of Drug Overdose Deaths: Pennsylvania



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CDC 24/7: Saving Lives, Protecting People™

The yearly (national) annual economic impact from the misuse of prescription drugs, illicit drugs, tobacco or alcohol is over **\$740 Billion**.

Source - National Institute of Drug Abuse

“No one is immune.”

The abuse of and addiction to opioids such as heroin, morphine, and prescription pain relievers is a serious global problem that affects the health, social, and economic welfare of all societies.

“We cannot arrest our way out
of the problem.”

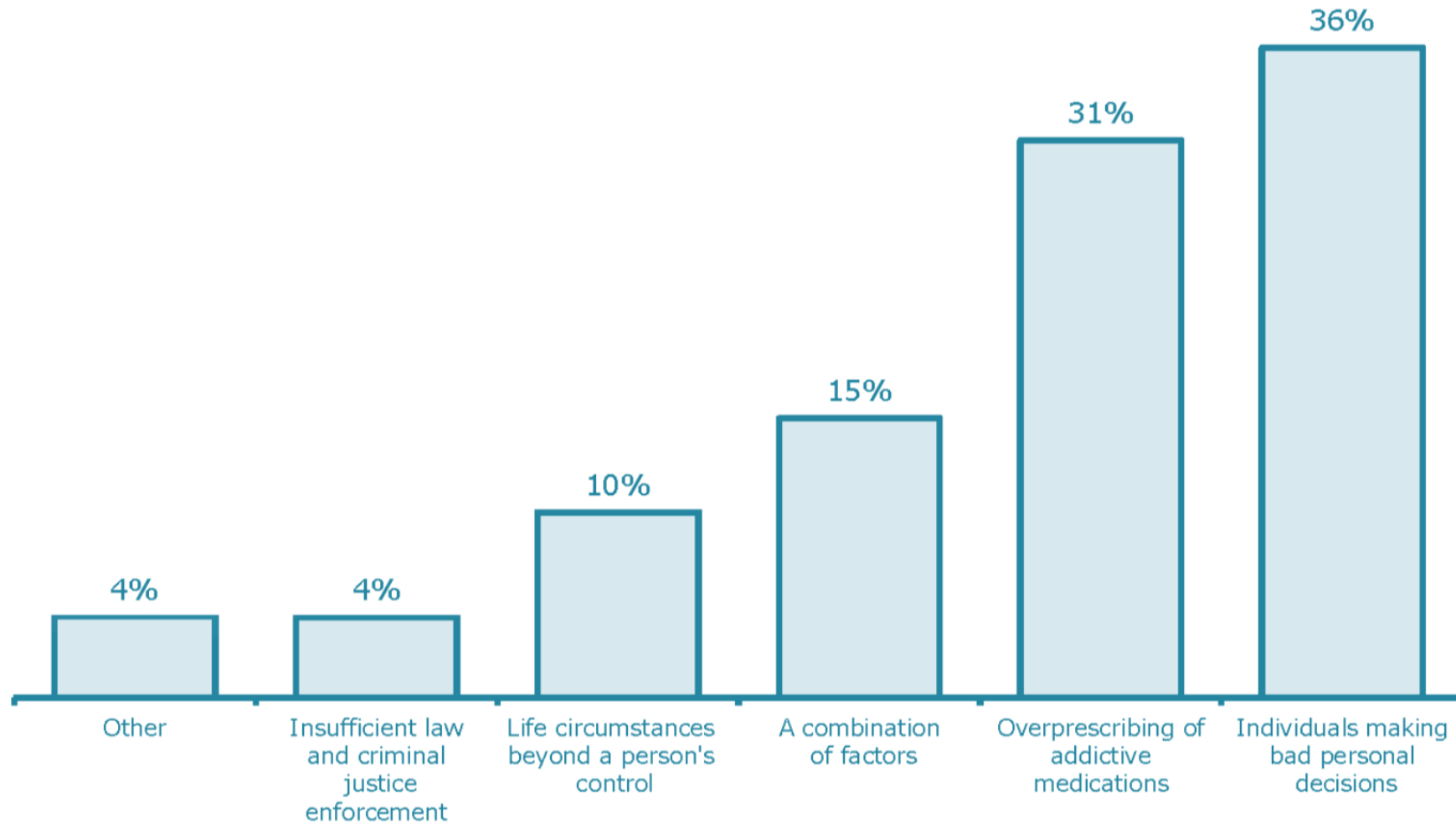
“Addiction is a treatable disease, not a moral failing.”

Highlights from Center for Rural PA Study

- ▶ As part of its continuing examination of the heroin/opioid crisis, the Center for Rural Pennsylvania contracted with the Center for Survey Research at Penn State Harrisburg to include two questions in its Spring 2017 Penn State Poll.
- ▶ The questions in the poll asked adult respondents (age 18 and older) to identify (1) the main causes of the heroin/opioid crisis and (2) the role of state government in addressing it. Respondents were asked to select only one answer from a select set of responses for each question.

Main Causes of Pennsylvania's Heroin/Opioid Crisis

A plurality of survey respondents indicated that individuals making bad personal decisions (36 percent) and the overprescribing of addictive medication (31 percent) were causes of the crisis.

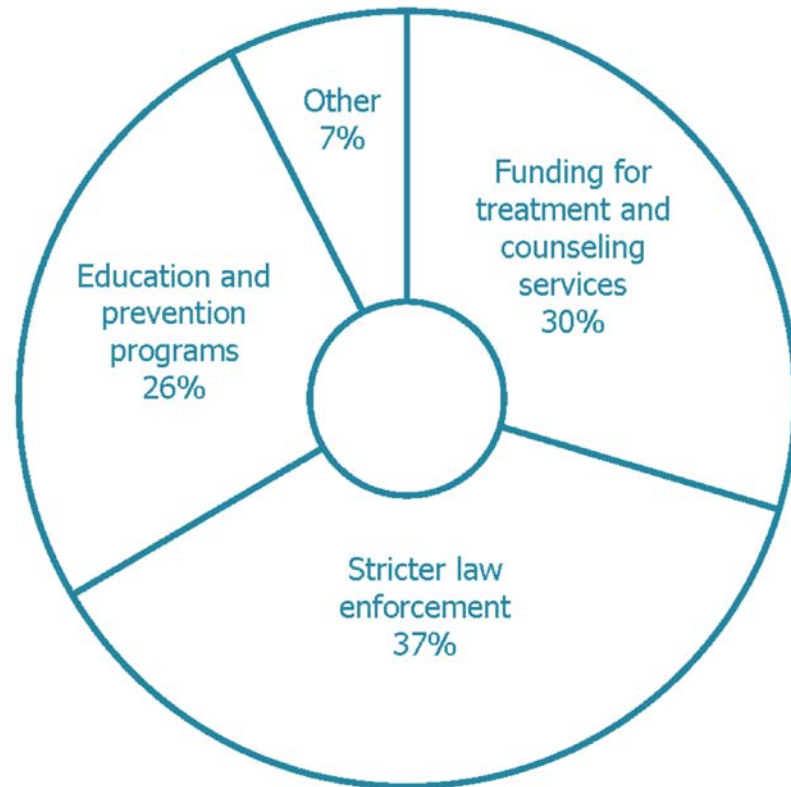


Note: Graph totals may not add to 100% due to rounding. All graphs exclude "don't know" and "decline to answer" responses. For questions on the main cause of the crisis, the "other" category included: lack of family support/ bad parenting; economic causes; lack of education about the effects of heroin/opioids; availability/access and cheap cost; lack of mental health care resources; and lack of religion/values. Data source for all graphs: April 2017 Penn State Poll.

State Government's Role in Addressing the Crisis

- ▶ The overwhelming majority of respondents (99 percent) indicated that state government has a role in addressing the heroin/opioid epidemic.
- ▶ The role that state government should play, however, was not as clear cut. Thirty-seven percent of respondents said the focus of state government should be stricter law enforcement for those selling or dealing drugs, 30 percent said it should be funding appropriate treatment and counseling services, and 26 percent said it should be providing age-appropriate education and prevention programs.
- ▶ Of the remaining 7 percent, 4 percent said the state should provide better regulations in terms of doctors, prescriptions and the pharmaceutical industry, 2 percent said a combination of strategies, and the remaining 1 percent suggested economic development and the legalization of drugs.

State Government's Role in Addressing Heroin/Opioid Crisis, 2017



“Those suffering from the disease of addiction cannot get treatment if they’re dead.”

In April of 2016, Pennsylvania’s Physician General issued a standing order for naloxone. Since that time, more than 4,000 lives have been saved with the medication.

Individualized Treatment

➔ Medication Assisted Treatment
(MAT)

➔ Inpatient Treatment

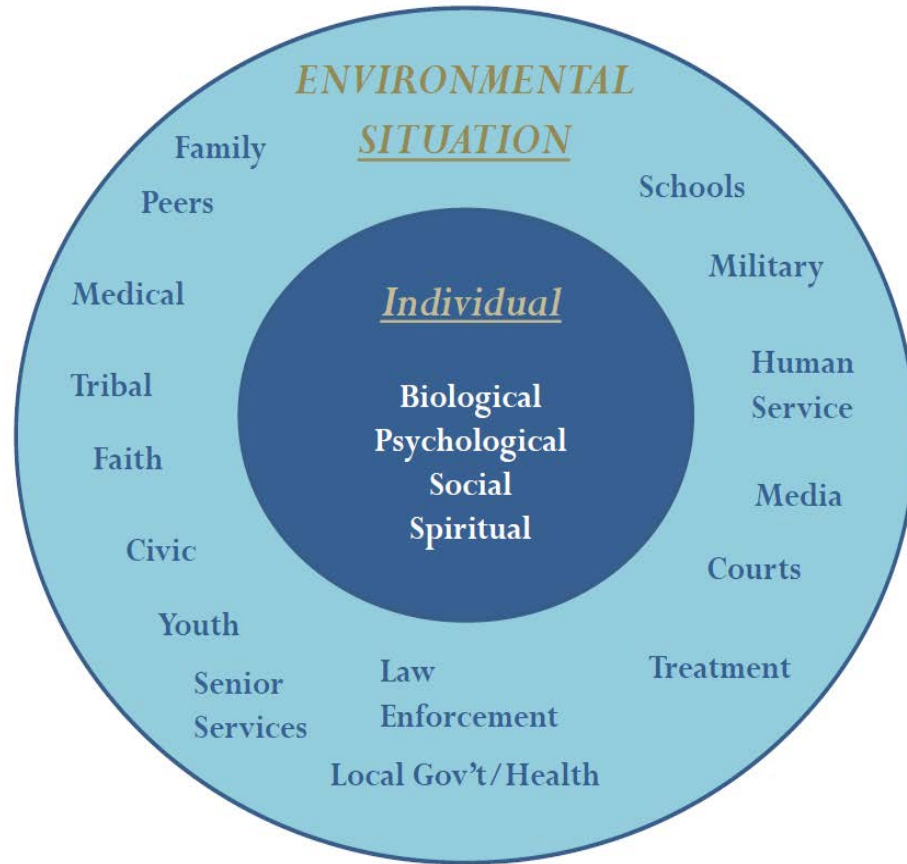
Continuum of Care

By developing more continuity along the continuum of care, public health and public safety organizations can reduce fragmentation within opioid epidemic responses.

Warm Handoff

“Warm handoff” is an approach where a health provider does a face-to-face introduction to a substance abuse specialist and makes a direct referral into substance abuse treatment.

Community Wide Effort



Bills Approved by the Legislature

- ▶ **Senate Bill 1164**, now Act 139, or David's Law, provides legal protection for witnesses, or Good Samaritans, seeking medical help at the scene of an overdose. In addition, it allows naloxone, a synthetic drug that blocks opiate receptors in the nervous system and known as the brand name Narcan, to be prescribed to a third party, such as a friend or family member, and administered by law enforcement and firefighters.
- ▶ **Senate Bill 1180**, now Act 191, expands the types of drugs monitored under the state's existing Prescription Drug Monitoring Program to include Schedule II through V controlled substances. It also creates a board within the Department of Health to establish and oversee an electronic data system listing all controlled substances that are prescribed and dispensed in Pennsylvania.

Bills Approved by the Legislature

- ▶ **Senate Bill 1202**, now Act 124, requires prescribers and dispensers to obtain initial and continuing education in pain management, identification of addiction and the use of opioids as effective treatment. The legislation also requires prescribers and dispensers to check the newly created Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Database (PDMP) each time a patient is dispensed an opioid drug product or a benzodiazepine.
- ▶ **Senate Bill 1367**, now Act 125, limits prescriptions designated for minors to a seven-day duration, unless there is a medical emergency that puts the child's health or safety at risk. The bill includes exceptions for cases involving chronic pain, cancer treatment or for palliative care or hospice care. In those cases, the medical professional would be required to document the acute medical condition in the minor's record with the prescriber and indicate the reason why a non-opioid alternative is not appropriate to address the acute medical condition.

Bills Approved by the Legislature

- ▶ **Senate Bill 1368**, now Act 126, calls for a medical training facility to implement key opioid-related curriculum. The curriculum calls for further education in pain management; multimodal treatments for chronic pain that minimize the use of a controlled substance containing an opioid; instruction on safe methods of prescribing a controlled substance containing an opioid that follows guideline-based care; identification of patients who have been identified as at-risk for developing problems with prescription opioids; and teaching medical students how to manage substance abuse disorders as a chronic disease.
- ▶ **House Bill 1699**, now Act 122, limits the quantity of opioids which may be prescribed to a patient seeking treatment in a hospital emergency department or urgent care center.

Bills Approved by the Legislature

- ▶ **Senate Bill 446**, now Act 59 of 2017, providing for the regulation and certification of recovery houses, sometimes referred to as “sober” or transitional houses.
- ▶ **Senate Bill 728**, now Act 79 of 2017, amends the Achieving Better Care by Monitoring All Prescriptions Program (ABC-MAP) Act to exempt Schedule V epilepsy drugs currently included in the PDMP requirements.

Added Amendments:

- ▶ Clarifies that if a patient has been admitted to a licensed health care facility ("facility"), a prescriber does not need to query the Prescription Drug Monitoring System after an initial query as long as the patient remains admitted to the facility or remains in observation status within the facility.
- ▶ Specifies that a doc does not need to query the system for the prescription of a nonnarcotic Schedule 5 controlled substance if it's specifically for epilepsy or seizure disorder.

Ongoing Legislative Efforts

- ▶ **Senate Bill 472:** Legislation limiting the prescription for a controlled substance containing an opioid to seven-days (for all individuals) unless there is a medical emergency that puts the patients' health or safety at risk.
- ▶ **Senate Bill 419:** Legislation requiring county coroners and/or medical examiners in the state to report in writing to the Pennsylvania Department of Health the death of any person resulting from a drug overdose, giving the time and place of the death and the related circumstances.

Ongoing Legislative Efforts

- ▶ **Senate Bill 391:** Legislation that amends the Mental Health Procedures Act to allow families the opportunity to seek involuntary commitment of loved ones for treatment for alcohol and drug abuse.
- ▶ **House Bill 121:** Legislation updating anti-drug curricula to include new prevention programs. This bill will also require DDAP and the Department of Education to jointly issue a report and an update every five years thereafter to the General Assembly.
- ▶ **House Bill 353:** Legislation will mandate controlled substance prescriptions to be electronic. If a physician uses his or her clinical judgement to prescribe an opioid, the prescription must be electronically transmitted to the pharmacy of the patient's choice.

Ongoing Legislative Efforts

Senate Bill 922: Legislation would create the Court Assessment for Nonnarcotic Medication Substance Abuse Treatment Program. This will increase opportunities for courts to provide the long-acting nonnarcotic, non-addictive medication in conjunction with comprehensive substance abuse treatment programs.

House Bill 17: Legislation will amend the Drug and Alcohol Abuse Control Act to specify that a parent or guardian is authorized to provide consent for treatment of their minor child.

House Bill 825: Legislation that will provide for a psychiatric and detoxification bed registry.

Ongoing Legislative Efforts

- ▶ **Senate Bill 654:** Legislation that will toughen existing state law related to drug overdoses. Pennsylvania's current Good Samaritan Law, Act 139 of 2014, provides immunity to an individual for minor drug possession offenses when he or she seeks emergency medical assistance for a drug overdose. Under the legislation, an overdose victim will be required to obtain treatment within 30 days after receiving emergency medical assistance in order to qualify for immunity or face jail time.
- ▶ **Senate Bill 655:** Legislation requiring mandatory implementation of opioid prescribing guidelines developed by the Safe and Effective Prescribing Practices Task Force.

Ongoing Legislative Efforts

- ▶ **Senate Bill 844:** Legislation to expand legal standing for individuals seeking to gain custody of children where both biological parents are absent, whether due to death or for other reasons.
- ▶ **House Bill 1539:** Legislation would grant temporary guardianship to grandparents when the parents of the grandchildren are unable to care for them primarily due to substance abuse issues. The temporary guardianship would allow grandparents the right to make vital basic decisions for their grandchildren, such as the ability to take a child to the doctor or enroll the child in school.